

POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB - NEWSLETTER - MAY 2000

PVRC CALENDAR - Please see the REFERENCE PAGE for details

Weekly Wed BWI Regional weekly breakfast. Wednesdays 7:30 am, Basil's Deli, Elkridge Landing Rd near BWI.

Monthly Over-the-Hill Luncheon. Date to be announced.
Hosts listed on the reference page.

May 4 Thu
PVRC/NC meeting. Location to be announced.

May 8 Mon
Central meeting, Temple Hills, MD

May 12 & 13
ON4UN speaks in MD and VA. See article in this issue.

May 19-21
Dayton 2000 Hamvention, Dayton, Ohio

May 27-28
CQWW WPX CW Contest. This is a club competition contest that earns PVRC 5 Mil points.

June 3-5
PVRC Reunion-on-the-air. See article in this issue.

Jun 17 Sat
W3LPL open house, 3055 Hobbs Rd, Glenwood. Starts at 12 noon rain or shine. Catered BBQ & beef. The N3IS ice cream truck is expected. Great way to get in a meeting

Jul 8-9
WRTC part of IARU contest. Details in the next (Jun/Jul) issue.

? Sat
Joint PVRC/FRC meeting in the FRC area. TBA

Jul 22 Sat
W4MYA open house. More info in the Jun/Jul issue.

Aug 1 Sat
Fowlfest at W3YOZ park.

Sep 7 Thu
PVRC/NC meeting at Ryans. First meeting after summer recess

Sep 11 Mon
Central meeting. First meeting after summer recess

We are sorry to report that three PVRC members are now silent keys:

Adm. George Reifenstein, W3ML of Auke Bay, AK operated from this area many years ago when he was Chief at the Bethesda Naval Hospital. (via W3PP)

George B. Kabroth, W3PLI of Mechanicsburg, PA attained DX Honor Roll and of was one of the charter members of the

PA chapter. (via K3TZV)

Ronald G. Martin, W6ZF of Napa, CA passed away March 16, 1999 at the age of 91. Licensed at age 12, he worked his whole life in communications. (via daughter in Kansas City)

The June/July issue deadline is June 7th. I'll be in England (as MBOA) during the normal production period for the June issue. The result is that June and July issues will be combined and distributed in mid-June. I'm sorry for any inconvenience. The Jun/Jul issue will contain details of the WRTC to be held during the IARU on July 8th and 9th.

- K3DI

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR MAY 2000 by Brian McGinness, N3OC

Lots of things continued to happen within PVRC last month. Topping the list was the fine presentation given to us by Tom Schiller, N6BT, who is president of Force 12 antennas.

The idea to have Tom come out from California to talk with us came from our VP, Jack K4VV. He coordinated the entire visit, with lots of help from other members, like N3RR and KE3Q. N3RR did tape the presentation, and the tape is being duplicated now and will be rotated around among the regions shortly.

And a recent contact between K3ZO and ON4UN has resulted in another opportunity for us to meet another world-renowned contester, dxer and author, John ON4UN. Look elsewhere in this issue for the details of this event from K4VV. Please note the regularly scheduled May meeting on 5/8 in Temple Hills WILL take place as scheduled, with dinner beforehand at Mamma Stella's for those interested.

We will be introducing two by-law changes as that meeting. One to allow for the club officers to be voted in by all regions, not just the central region. This means we will have to send out some type of ballot to each regional coordinator in September, to be voted upon at your October meeting, with the results to be forwarded to the election chairman.

That sounds fancy, but the truth is that these positions are usually uncontested. The three members of the board of trustees that are not officers are tasked with developing a list of nominees to be placed on the ballot. In early fall, if anyone is interested in running for PVRC office, please let N3RR, KE3Q or K3MM know about it.

The second by law change will be to remove the three year

term limit for only the treasurer and secretary, leaving it in place for the president and vice-president. This was suggested by those currently in those offices, who have spent a lot of time setting up their systems and don't seem to mind staying on.

If anyone has any comments on these two changes, please let me know. They will be proposed and tabled at the May meeting, and voted on at the June meeting at W3LPL.

Dayton is right around the corner. I won't be able to go this year, but if anyone wants to hold a club meeting, that's fine, and please forward a list of attendees to the secretary.

This newsletter issue will also announce the annual PVRC reunion. I hope to get on and work as many of you as I can. There are a couple guys out there real serious about winning this, so let's try to get on and give them some business! GO PVRC!

TREASURER'S REPORT, by Dave Baugher, WR3L (4/22/00)

I would like to thank everyone who has donated to PVRC over the past year including the following for donations in April: N4MO, NT4D, WB4DNL, KC9LC, W4RX, N4MXT, WU4G, N6NRJ, AND NB3O.

PVRC MEETING MINUTES for April 10, 2000 by Jack Hammett, K4VV

There were Luncheon, Dinner, and PVRC Central Meeting events on Monday, 4/10 with Tom Schiller, N6BT, President of Force 12, Inc as the Speaker.

The luncheon was cohosted by Rich, KE3Q and Frank, W3LPL at the Dough Roller Restaurant in Crofton, Maryland. Twenty-four people attended including our Speaker Tom, N6BT, three Guests, John K8JW, Rick WB2TNL, and Chuck W3PJ, and twenty members KE3Q, W3AMY, W3LPL, W3MC, W3MR, W3DAD, W3YD, W3OU, N7PD, N3HUV, K3DI, KF3BE, K3ZO, W3TOM, W3TMZ, K1EFI, K2YWE, K4D4D, W3YOZ, and K4VV.

Tom told of his life-changing experience in a 1983 contest operation using an array of broadcast curtains with 21dB gain on Saipan, focusing his energy to understand and apply knowledge of why some antennas "work in a superior manner." (I am paraphrasing.) Later in life, Tom founded Force 12 to continue the pursuit of efficiency in antennas.

Some question and discussion topics: Debugging the Antenna

System--a briefing with handout (available in soft copy for personal use), was the primary topic, with many practical tips based on Tom's extensive experience with customers deploying his products.

Topics:

"everything works";

Baluns to balance;

spacing >14' to WARC antenna;

the Zagi;

Progression of antenna upgrades:

C3SS @ 30 ft, to 42 ft,

C3 @ 70 ft, to 90 ft, to 110-120 ft;

two short boom tribanders (eg. C3's)

stacked w/ 28 ft spacing;

"really likes stacks;"

DDRRs;

Tailgunner switch to open up the reflector;

the balloon demo on how to get 6dB of "ground reflection gain;" Camouflage with variegated shades of grey or green

black is okay w/highlights--break it up;

MFJ and Auttek reject broadcast energy;

trees don't seem to degrade;

elevated radials @ 16 ft on 160m;

shading effect in inverted stack--20/15/10m from the top.

A fun event with good info!

The dinner was cohosted by Bill, N3RR and Brian, N3OC at the Olive Garden Restaurant in Tysons Corner, VA. Thirty-one people attended, including our Speaker, Tom N6BT, one Guest, Ken W8SVP, two NCDXA members: Ben W4FQT, and Ray K5RJ, and 28 PVRC members: N3RR, N3OC, W3YOZ, K4VV, K3MM, W3DQ, W3TOM, N4ZH, N4ZR, K3SA, N3AM, W3GG, K8OQL, K2UOP, K3WC, N4MM, WK3W, W4NF, W4RM, W4CE, W3EMH, W3UJ, W4LIP, KE3Q, N3KTV, W8ZA, and NE3H.

Topics:

Saipan--a 60 dB difference vs a tribander!;

verticals on the ocean--~16 dB difference;

best heights: 30', 42', 70', 90', and 120';

use of YT Terrain modeling software,

Digital Topographic Map data;

WARC bands troublesome near tribander:

separate tower;

lateral separation:

~1/2 wavelength (~70' on 20m);

use of test range;

lobe suppression with gain;

Gain of various objects

Light bulb -18 dB

dipole 0 dB

very good 6 el monobander +8 dB
Illuminator 3 element array with +4 dB gain and 20 dB f/b;
Receive antennas on 160:
EWE--fair,
Beverages--tops,
Mag loop-very good;
rooftops--C3SS.

Tom talked over the Music (QRM). Bill, N3RR did a video tape of the dinner remarks.

The meeting was hosted by Brian--N3OC at the Vienna Community Center in Vienna, VA. Brian gave the Presidents Report:

- 1) Still awaiting word from FRC on the joint meeting--having it at W3LPL is the backup plan,
- 2) Next major HF contest is WPX CW; PVRC did very well in WPX SSB with some very big scores, and
- 3) N3OC will not be at Dayton this year.

Jack, K4VV introduced Tom--N6BT as an accomplished leader and successful entrepreneur who has turned his energy to antennas through Force 12, Inc.

Forty-five people attended, including Tom--N6BT, 5 guests: Ben W4FQT, Ray K5RJ, Hal WB3KOV, Bill W3HXF, and Tom N4ZPT, and 39 PVRC members: N3OC, WR3L, AJ3M, W2YE, W4RW, N4MO, W3TOM, N3AM, W3UJ, K3SA, WK3W, N7PD, NE3H, N4ZR, N3FX, WZ3AR, W4RX, W3DQ, N3JT, W3EMH, W3AZ, K3WC, KT3Y, K4VV, K3MM, W8ZA, N3KTV, W4NF, W4RM, W4CE, AD3F, N4ZH, W4LIP, N4MM, K8OQL, K2UOP, N1KC, N1KCE, and W3YOZ.

Some notes:

Debugging;

Saipan w/ Gary Caldwell 21 dBi, 3xTCI 611

Curtains on 240' towers in CQWW;

the baloon-- +6dB;

Dream F12 Installation for 80-10m on a single tower?

Typical is C4E w/shunt fed tower on 80m

"Millennium" is 2el 80, 2el 40m, C31XR;

height is a budget issue;

Interaction?--Beasley software;

Advantage of 1/2 wave vertical?

no radials,

feedpoint is elevated;

Everything works--

Lightbulb, Illuminator

is -18 dB to dipole (lots of enjoyment)

to 2 el beam

1/2 way to "World Class Performance";

what angles for DX?;

Examples from Dean Straw;

ZR verticals;
Vertical lobe suppression--
 "if you can't make it high,
 make it big--gain";
6Y2A data and performance;
 the Team;
 verticals & radials on the beach in bad wx
Range of what works is 25 dB;
 2 el yagi works 95%;
WX0B Stack Match with 300 watt bulbs:
 33 countries
Impressive improvements?--Horizontal,
 rotatable dipole, 6-10 dB vs Inv Vee;
 Triple Monobander;
 ZR type vertical,
 +2 to 6dB vs. trapped vertical;
 New 40m design--uses solid rod loading,
 stacks w/in 7' of C31XR;
Rivits--reliable;
Good height for C4 is 42';
Stacks of C3's.

These topics listed are from rough notes, and I may have misunderstood some points, so check the tapes for Tom's actual words.

Special thanks to Tom Schiller for traveling and giving his time to engage the members and guests of PVRC. Cudo's and congratulations to N3RR who cohosted the dinner and provided the powerpoint projector and taped both the dinner and the meeting for copies to be available for members who did not attend; to KE3Q who provided back up equipment and led the effort to put the Luncheon together, with help from W3YOZ who scouted Restaurants and gave Tom a tour of Annapolis; to W3DQ who helped with messages and coordination; to Ben--W4FQT and Ray--K4RJ, both from NCDXA, who handled the arrangement for the Vienna Community Center, and to N3OC who provided leadership in guiding the activities. This was an extremely interesting and stimulating day. [\[email protected\]](#)

ON4UN PRESENTATIONS; MAY 12 IN MD AND MAY 13 IN VA.

ON4UN Presentation on May 12 in Maryland. The PVRC Leadership Team is pleased to announce that John Devoldere, ON4UN--Author, Innovator, and Accomplished Contester and DXer--is traveling through Maryland and will join us to make a Presentation focused on antennas. The planned topics are Radials and Beverages, with photos of his antennas eland contesting experiences. The Radials briefing is one that John will also present at the Antennas Forum a week later in Dayton. John will answer questions and offer practical

suggestions for our antenna challenges. John's planned Presentation was made possible due to a contact with Fred, K3ZO who set the process in motion. John is driving here from New Jersey on Friday 5/12, pausing at W3LPL for a tour of Frank's master station, then joining us for dinner and then to speak.

The Presentation with Q&A is scheduled for 7:30 to 9:30 PM on Friday, May 12, at the Auditorium of Capitol College in Laurel, MD. John will stay afterwards to meet the local Hams and answer questions. Bill, N3RR has made all the arrangements for use of the Auditorium, parking, and coordinating the audio/visual support for the Presentation. Tyler, K3MM and Rich, KE3Q have volunteered to video tape the session for use by interested Regional Units within PVRC.

This session is a meeting of PVRC. Brian, N3OC will Chair a three minute opening to expedite John's Presentation.

PVRC and NCDXA members and guests are all welcome. The Auditorium seats 300, so there is plenty of room for guests and all comers. The Presentation is open to all interested hams. Please pass the information to your friends and to the local clubs whose members may have interest. Please email to [\[email protected\]](#) for reservations.

John will have copies of his recent Book available. He will also autograph any of his books that are available.

Directions will be posted on the PVRC site soon--see <http://www.pvrc.org>, or see www.capitol-college.edu/general/map.htm.

N3RR has planned a dinner event at 5:00 to 6:45 PM at the Moose Creek Steak House, which is the Restaurant in the Holiday Inn where the "Over the Hill Gang" meets. Driving Directions: JCT I-95/I-495 CAPITAL BELTWAY & US ROUTE 1 AT EXIT 25A . For a map see <http://www.basshotels.com/holiday-inn>. The hotel telephone is 301 345-6700.

The dinner is limited to PVRC members and guests due to space limitations. Dinner conversation will probably focus on contesting. Please email Bill at [\[email protected\]](#) for a reservation.

We are very pleased to host John Devoldere for a Presentation that will contribute to building our contesting and DXing capabilities. Please help pass the word to friends and local clubs who may have interested members. A separate short message is being circulated subject: "ON4UN Speaks...", that is useful to pass to friends and local clubs.

Comments or questions are welcome to [\[email protected\]](#) or to [\[email protected\]](#) 73 Jack Hammett Jr, K4VV

ON4UN presentation on May 13 in Virginia. For any outlying chapter members who may not have the opportunity to attend the ON4UN presentation in the Capitol area he is still on schedule for a visit to SWVA region on May 13, in Lynchburg, VA. G.P. Howell, WA4RTS, who is arranging the visit for the local club in Lynchburg, has arranged for a 200-seat auditorium at the Ericsson facility there, and has requested I provide him a head count of PVRC SWVA attending. So, if any members from Central or NC (or any other member for whom the venue is convenient) are planning to attend, please email me. I have not received details of his presentation yet, but understand he has a lengthy slide presentation which may be part of it. Presumably there would be some overlap of material presented between the Capitol Area and SWVA presentations. 73, John Mitchell, K4IQ [\[email protected\]](#)

NW REGIONAL MEETING MINUTES- 4/18 By Greg Altig N5OKR ([\[email protected\]](#))

In attendance were members N5OKR, K4VV, K3WC, N3YDT K3ZO, W3ZZ, NE3H, W8ZA, N3KTV, K3UG, K3IXD, WD3A, K3MM, K3LP, W3YOZ, and guests Laurie and Tayler Stewart, and special guest speaker K4ZDH.

Business: There was no business conducted. I was a little disappointed by the large number of members who said they would be there and didn't show. It makes me, and therefore us as an organization, look a little foolish to tell the restaurant manager that I have 27 confirmed and to expect 30-35 (considering walk-ins), and have only 15 attend. By the way, the buffet at our meeting location, the Paradise Restaurant, was outstanding and a return is definitely in the future. Thanks to those who chipped in to pay for Riley's dinner.

Special Guest Speaker: In lieu of our normal roundtable ramblings from the members, the floor was turned over to our guest speaker, Riley Hollingsworth of the FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau. His presentation was video taped by K3MM, and will be available for distribution to the other regions after reformatting and duping.

Given that Riley's talk was video taped in its entirety, I won't go into detailed notes on its content. To summarize, he has seen progress in the 14 months since he last visited us (18 months on the job), but hasn't worked himself out of a job yet. There is much more to be done, and he counts on us to be his eyes and ears to prevent backsliding into what

he calls the "dark ages" of amateur rules enforcement.

Riley views the license restructuring as having very little effect on the bands compared to what they are now, and considers the code requirement, however minimal, to be the filter between those that are serious about the hobby and those that are not. One thing he welcomes is the fact he won't be seeing any more medical waivers for the code from podiatrists cross his desk. Meeting adjourned.

PVRC/NC MARCH AND APRIL MEETING MINUTES by Pete Soper, KS4XG

The 3/2/00 meeting was held at Ryans Family Restaurant in Cary from 5:30-7:30pm.

Attendees: Will AA4NC, Guy K2AV, Bob K4HA, Jim K4MA, Jim K4QPL, Mark KI7WX, Pete KS4XG, Bert N4CW, Joe NA3T, Jay NT4D, Gary W2CS, and Will WJ9B.

Program. This month we had a presentation by Joe NA3T about VHF propagation based on contest log analysis.

The 4/6/00 meeting was held at Ryans Family Restaurant in Cary from 5:30-7:30pm.

Attendees. Will AA4NC/W4MR, Guy K2AV, Brian K3KO, Bob K4HA, Jim K4MA, Alan K4PB, Jim K4QPL, Debbie WD8EBI, Pete KS4XG, Jim N3QYE, Jeff N3NPQ, Bert N4CW, Joe NA3T, Jay NT4D, and Gary W2CS.

Membership. This was the second meeting of Debbie WD8EBI sponsored by Jay NT4D. Jay said Debbie has expressed an interest in joining him in future multiop efforts and presented her as a new member. A vote was taken and it was unanimous. Welcome to PVRC, Debbie. Chapter membership is now 36.

We are sad to report that Alan, K4PB will be moving with his wife to Jupiter Florida later this month. Alan has contributed 2,758,564 points to PVRC during the 5mil award period as of ARRL 160. His contributions to the club, to local member's tower work, the Cary ham club and other efforts in the community have made a difference. We wish Alan and his wife luck and all the best down South.

Business. RARSfest (Raleigh Amateur Radio Society Hamfest) is this Sunday, April 9th (note this has past - editor) from 8am to 4pm at the Graham building at the Wake County Fairgrounds (corner of Hillsborough and Blue Ridge in Raleigh). PVRC/NC will have tables for selling junque as well as showing videos and hosting computer contest simulations, RUFZ, PED, VPED and other six legged animals.

KS4XG, K4TMC and N3QYE will set up equipment and member's junque Saturday night (contact us if you want to help: [\[email protected\]](#) ALWAYS WORKS). One or all of us will be on site from 7am Sunday (so we can get a jump on reading the paper before the crowds hit). N3QYE will monitor 146.775 (PL 88.5) and KS4XG will have a cell phone (604 0721). K4HA will have a phone from a bit later in the day at 215 2018.

It was moved and seconded to make the RARSfest a regular PVRC/NC meeting. A signup sheet will be present and a formal meeting will be held at 11am.

The special May meeting will feature video of the Forcel2 presentation to PVRC that we expect to be taped this month. Unfortunately we're sure that last year's meeting place (Fox&Hound) is too small this time so we've got to line up an alternative and we didn't do it in time for these minutes.

A notice will be sent out ASAP, hopefully in time to update the web site before the Fest!

Announcements. The chapter is pleased to recognized potential recipients of PVRC 5 Million point awards for the current season. N4ZR's data indicates that Brian Alsop K3KO, Guy Olinger K2AV and Jay Brookover NT4D will likely pass the 5 million mark this season. Joining K4MA and AA4NC from the '97 season and N4AF and N4CW from '98 we congratulate Brian, Guy and Jay for their accomplishments.

W2CS needs a new wafer for his SB220 band switch. If anybody has solutions for Gary please contact him at [\[email protected\]](#). Gary also wonders if there exists a decent 7 band wire antenna that presents a 50 ohm match all bands and avoids the efficiency and maintenance pitfalls of typical trapped designs?

K4QPL is hosting a tower raising party starting 8am April 15th (details sent to pvrnc reflector, follow-up to [\[email protected\]](#)).

K3KO will be at RARSfest eager to get two watt carbon composition resistors of 470, 560 or 620 ohms. (see Beverage adventure below)

Member News. N4CW has rediscovered RTTY with an old PK232 and the WF1B software. Bert said this is the best tool ever for finding amplifier and antenna trap weakness.

W2CS has likewise gotten involved with PACTOR but is working on computer controls for this. Gary said the duty cycle is

similar to CW.

K4PB has QST, CQ and other ham magazines to go to the hamfest. Alan has 1 1/4 acres and a new home in south Florida and will hopefully be heard on the low end of the bands from his new QTH soon. He reports that he had a nightmare recently that AA4NC left CP&L (NC power company) and moved to South Florida to work for Florida Power and Light and living very close to him, continuing the plague of strong key clicks that Will has visited on Alan for so many years (Alan's current home is roughly 3/4 mile away from AA4NC). Will said that he has bad news, as CP&L is buying FP&L and he expects to be moving to Jupiter around a month after Alan. Will is changing his callsign to AA4FL to commemorate this move. (A slightly late April Fools)

Jay hosted a M/S effort for the DX phone contest with N3QYE and KS4XG but skipped the WPX contest.

K4HA is focused on helping K4PB disassemble his station and will be taking Alan's tower down with help from other area hams on the 7th.

KS4XG has his new hamshack finished and is focused on the antenna farmette. Pete took part in WPX at AA4NC but simply stunk on the Sunday morning and hurt the effort.

K3KO received notice of his induction into the DXCC Honor Roll, luckily just before the inclusion of 4W. Brian put up four 550 foot Beverage antennas with help from N4CW to augment his EWE. He had an adventure with terminating resistors. On the up side he found that using an Autek RF1 to look for minimum SWR variation as he swept the frequency was the easy way to zero in on a proper terminating resistor. For Brian's Beverages this was 560 ohms, but he said that 470 and 620 ohms worked OK. Going outside that range showed jumps in SWR however.

The downside was finding proper terminating resistors. Carbon composition two watt resistors are quite rare now and ceramic resistors are risky as there are both noninductive and inductive types with unclear distinctions between the two. Brian was saved by N4CW's junk box, which provided all the resistors he needed.

N3NPQ has a new house, a tall Oak for an HF antenna and a newly purchased FT100 to explore HF. Jeff will be taking at least one upgrade exam at RARSfest.

N3QYE has been hard at work editing the KI7WX SSB Sprint video so it can be viewed at RARSfest. Jim snagged a Moseley Junior that may be of use to N3NPQ. AA4NC thinks

this is like a TA33 but with lower power traps.
AA4NC sponsored a M/S for WPX with KI7WX and KS4XG ops,
worked some DX and did QSL card duty. Will has plans to add
an extension to the house to support additional operating
positions.

K4QPL has concrete! Lots of concrete! Concrete with a
section of 25G in it, concrete with guy anchors, concrete
stuck to Jim's shoes. Jim hopes to be squinting at a TH7 @
75' soon!

K2AV has been under the weather for many weeks but is better
now. Guy has also been swamped with family activity as
relatives finish moving into the area from New York. Guy is
preparing with N4CW and W2CS to join N4AF at Howie's place
for a mini-M/M WPX/CW contest.

K4MA made a strong showing for WPX (beating the much
stronger hardware and three ops at the AA4NC station).

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 4th,
location TBD very soon.

The May meeting will be the last of the season. Summer
meetings, if any, will be scheduled via email. The next
regular meeting of the chapter for the next season after May
will be Thursday, September 7th at Ryans.

CVCC MINUTES 4/11/00 by John Youell, WA4QDM

The April meeting got off to a good start with about a dozen
present at the "Greek" restaurant for a pre-meeting meal.
Our guest speaker Sam (W4PK), his wife Judy and his daughter
Terry joined us there. In addition to the regulars at the
"Greek" were W4DR's wife Rosalie (N4CFL), Phil Hughes (W4CSA
the former KN4U) and Jim-Bob (don't remember the call).

We lost Phil between the "Greek" and the Mennonite Church
(allegedly he had to go to work), but we met another dozen
members at the meeting site. Paul (K4JA) took a break from
building his super station and joined us (did he say 80
yards of concrete?)! The meeting started at about 7:30 pm
and the first order of business was the presentation of our
new awards by Bob (W4DR). Bob did an outstanding job of
presenting the handsome plaques that he designed. The
highly coveted and much sought after awards were for "Most
new band countries", won by Jon (W4HZ) and "Most improved
percentage of band countries" won by Sam (W4PK) our guest
speaker. The "Most new band countries" award is sponsored
by the club and the "Most improved percentage of band
countries" award is sponsored by Herman (N4CH). Honorable
mention goes to Mike (N4MXT) runner-up for the "Most

improved percentage of band countries" award by a fraction of a percent.

At the conclusion of the awards presentation, Bob (W4DR) introduced Sam (W4PK) who put on an excellent power point presentation entitled "A serious Foxhunt a long time ago". The presentation was based on Sam's stint with the FCC in Florida during his college years (I think he said in the 50s, hope I got that right!). There were several photographs of vintage radio equipment including loop antennas for the mobile and other RDF gear. The "serious" foxhunt was the DF effort in locating a station that was sending brief coded messages in CW. Listening stations spread over the eastern U.S. had pinpointed the station as being near Miami, so Sam's office got the call to further pinpoint the station. Since a mobile loop antenna would be a giveaway, one of the FCC agents devised a portable loop that was concealed in his hat! The station was pinpointed and the antenna spotted in the trees, but because the coded transmissions had now been "cracked" the station was allowed to continue operation, giving Federal agents the dates and times of gun smuggling operations! Sam got a well-deserved ovation at the end of the presentation and we took a break to help Sam pack up, as he had a two-hour drive home.

After seeing Sam and his family on their way we continued with re-electing club officers for the coming year. (Hey, we had no competition running on the "We brought the sunspots back" ticket)!

We had two great sites offered for the June picnic, Jim's (W4ML) Mattiponi River place and AC's (W4HJ) cousin's place on the Appomattox River. By a narrow vote, Jim's place was chosen and the date is June 10.

Jim (W4ML) and Bob (W4MYA) both gave updates on their respective M/M Virginia QSO Party efforts. I think Jim said he had about 125,000 +/- points and Bob had about 715,000 (this should be a new record). Jim had some new contesters and pointed out that this is an excellent training opportunity. Tom (N4ZJ) said that he and Henry (N4HB) had about 20,000 points mobile. It will be interesting to see how we did, since the Loudon ARG put on an all out effort.

Bob (W4MYA) pointed out that his WPX SSB M/M score is presently 4th in the US. Bob is looking for operators for the WPX CW contest at the end of next month.

Jim (W4ML) is holding code practice on 146715 Sundays at 7AM and Becky (KS4RX) is willing to work with anyone interested around 8PM Wednesdays on 28 mhz.

Two final items. We voted to fix the south side packet antenna and Jim Green will look into arranging for a crane. Bob (W4MYA) is going to have a joint PVRC / CVCC picnic - I think it is July 22.

Lots of good DX coming soon, including 70 and A5! See you in the pile-ups!

THE WORLD CONTEST STATION DATABASE by Pete Smith, [\[email protected\]](#)

Several years ago, Scott Tuthill (now K7ZO) harvested a pile of contest reports from the 3830 reflector and produced two Excel spreadsheets giving station descriptions for close to 1000 contesters worldwide. As you can imagine, collecting and updating the information was a lot of work, and after about two years he suspended any further updating.

Last fall, I contacted Scott and got his permission to make the database available on the Internet, together with a facility for updating on-line. Initially, I deployed it on a machine at work, and the response was immediate. The database grew to over 1500 stations, and hundreds updated their existing station descriptions.

Anticipating my retirement on March 31, I went hunting for a new home for the database. Bill, W4AN, volunteered www.contesting.com, and I went to work with Leigh, KR6X, who modified the database and web pages to run on contesting.com. You'll find it there, under "resources," at the bottom of the page.

So why care? Well, I've often wondered why OK2RZ was so loud on 10 meters -- the database tells you why. Get waxed in a pileup? See what the other guy was using. You can get a really interesting snapshot of competitive station design here that isn't available anywhere else. The data can be harvested for conclusions on everything from the most-used contest radio to the average number of elements on 40... The possibilities really are endless.

The database is available at
<http://www.contesting.com/stationdatabase.htm>.
Are YOU listed?

SHORT NOTES by the editor, K3DI

Scott at Alpha/Power said that they normally limit their advertising to major publications. PVRC says thank you to Alpha/Power for helping in the cost of distributing our annual jumbo issue.

A Testimonial Dinner to honor Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, will be (or was) held on Saturday, May 6th at the Goddard Recreation Center. Starts at 5:30 PM with dinner at 6:30 PM. Tickets are \$18 but the seating is limited to 110. You may contact Hugh O'Donnel W3FUO for more information at 301-286-7684 or [\[email protected\]](#).

I will be signing M0BOA from G3HJF's B&B station just north of London in the Saturday morning period of the reunion. I don't know about bands other than he has a 20m monobander. Please remember to swing your beam NE for the rare UK multiplier.

The deadline for tickets the Dayton Contest Dinner is (was) May 4th. The dinner is on May 13 at the Crown Plaza Hotel. Tickets via Radio Book Store via 1-800-457-7373.

Fred Laun, K3ZO passed along an NY Times article that described plans for the FCC treat radio frequencies as commodities to be bought and sold in the open market. An item on page 15 of the May QST notes that the ARRL is promoting an Amateur Radio Spectrum Bill to protect our bands. I'm glad the League is watching the FCC!

John Silva N3AM passed along an item that the sunspots exceeded 300 in early April. Sun info can be found at http://spacescience.com/headlines/y2000/ast05apr_1m.htm

The National Contest Journal, this week opened a new Web site to complement the printed magazine. Created by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, it's <http://www.ncjweb.com>.

Bob Dannels, W2GG notes that you can check to see if your WPX log was received at <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/n8bjq/logsrcvd.htm>

PVRC REUNION ON-THE-AIR 2000

1. Eligibility: All members of PVRC worldwide (Once a member, always a member!)
2. Object: To contact as many other PVRC members around the world as possible, using 7 bands as follows:
 - CW: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 meters
 - SSB: 20, 10 meters
3. Date: Always the first weekend in June. This year's reunion will be June 3, 4, and 5 2000 (zulu).

4. Frequency: CW always 47 kHz up from the bottom of the band (3547, 7047, 14047, 21047, and 28047 kHz). Phone frequencies are 14247 kHz (14250 as an alternate) and 28447 kHz on 10 meters. (These are suggested frequencies.)
5. Three contest periods (2000):
3 June: 1400Z - 1800Z
4 June: 0000Z - 0500Z and
2200z - 0300Z (5 June)
6. Contest exchange: Serial number, your call, QTH, your call when first joining PVRC, and year joined PVRC.
Example: NR73 W6XX CA W4XX 60
7. Valid contact: Completed two-way QSOs on any of 7 bands. No crossband or crossmode QSOs permitted.
8. QSO points: Two points for each completed QSO.
9. Multipliers: Total multiplier is the sum of all states, DC, Canadian provinces, and DXCC countries worked. (AK and HI count as a state or a country, not both.) Each multiplier may be counted once, not once per band.
10. Reunion call: CQ PVRC
11. Please send your score listing only:
#QSO #MULT SCORE
and give your exchange such as:
W6XX CA W4XX 70
to the Newsletter editor ([\[email protected\]](#)) by June 7th to make the June/July issue or by July 20th for the August issue. See the reference page for addresses. You do not need to send in your log or the optional dupe sheet.

If you work a station that claims to be a member (everybody wants to be one of us), but is not listed in the roster, please send that log information with your score. Clearly indicate if any such questionable contacts are included in your score. We'll check it out and adjust your score, as needed.

Nearly the same number of stations participating in 1999 as 1998 (58 in 1998 and 57 1999) but fewer stations operated during all periods resulting in lower scores. Below, is a listing of the top five scores from 1998 and the results I have of the 1999 reunion.

At least three of the stations listed below as "also heard" in '99 did sent in their score but the were lost in the shuffle of moving my station and office during construction.

If you have been omitted from the tally please resubmit with your 2000 scores.

TOP FIVE SCORES FROM 1998:

CALL	QSO	MULT	SCORE
K1HTV	213	19	8094
W3UJ	181	19	6878
K3MM	195	17	6630
W3PP	169	19	6422
K4GKD	142	20	5680

1999 REUNION SCORES AS OF 6/25/99

CALL	QSO	MULT	SCORE	
K3DI	149	17	5066	#1
W3TMZ	123	15	3690	#2
W4YE	115	16	3680	#3
WR3Z	118	14	3304	#4
KT4P	86	16	2752	#5
K6ZH	91	14	2548	
N4RP	89	14	2492	
W0SS	91	13	2366	
K2UFT	68	14	1904	
N3II	71	12	1704	
N3NT	76	11	1672	
W4ZYT	63	13	1638	
W3GN	56	14	1568	
W3GRF	60	12	1440	Op W3MC
W3CP	60	12	1440	
W5KL	62	11	1364	
N4AF	67	10	1340	
W4DM	52	11	1144	
W3FZV	46	11	1012	
K3OSX	35	10	700	
K3ZO	37	9	666	
KZ1O	36	8	576	
K1HTV	36	8	576	
W2GG	28	10	560	
W3HVQ	33	7	462	
W2RS	30	7	420	
K2YWE	27	7	378	
ZP6CW	26	7	364	
W4PHL	18	6	216	
K3TM	15	7	210	
N0TK	16	6	192	
W4AGI	14	6	168	
W3DQ	10	7	140	
N3RC	10	6	128	
K1EFI	11	4	88	
W6MVW	7	4	56	
N4MM	1	1	2	

Also heard or worked in 1999 were: DK5AD, K2PLF, K3CKT,

K3RV, K4TJ, K4VT, K5RT, KT3Y, N6RA, N6XI, W0UCE, W3AU,
W3AZ, W3AZD, W3CB, W3DA, W3KC, W4HM, W6UM, and W7YS.

S C O R E S

* * * * *

* Changes/additions/deletions *

* to W2GG via packet or *

* [\[email protected\]](#) *

* ### = missing information *

* * * * *

ARRL VHF SS RESULTS (Final 4/4/00)

CALL	PWR	BND	QSO	MULTS	TOTAL
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SINGLE OPERATOR

K1RZ	H	6	598	182	228,046
K3DNE	H	6	574	152	145,768
W4RX	H	7	567	142	116,156
K2UOP	H	7	284	116	52,200
K3ZO	H	2	364	90	32,760
W4MYA	H	3	197	63	14,364
K3IXD	L	5	196	50	13,750
N3II	L	2	215	49	10,535
K4SO	L	2	210	46	9,660
N3UMA	L	2	##	35	4,795
W8ZA	L	2	67	20	1,680
N4MM	L	2	60	22	1,320
W3OU	L	1	29	8	232
W3FG	L	#	##	##	85
K3DI	L	1	14	2	28

MULTI-OP

W3YOZ	H	2	244	78	19,032
15 LOGS			TOTAL		648,731

Operators:

W3YOZ W3YOZ K4VV

ARRL DX CW (Final 4/7/00)

CALL	BND	QSO	CTY	TOTAL
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SINGLE OP HIGH POWER

K3ZO	3860	408	4,723,416
N4AF	3317	372	3,700,000
K4MA	3070	338	3,105,882
W4MR	2155	332	2,146,380
N4ZR	2324	302	2,103,732
K2PLF	2046	342	2,093,040
W0YR	1578	270	1,277,370
W4YE	1318	313	1,237,602
K2UOP	1286	280	1,080,240

W3AZ		889	244	650,748
W4ZV	10	1893	104	590,616
K2AV		693	241	498,147
N4MM		556	235	480,810
N3JT		500	102	273,000
W4IF		469	167	234,969
K4VV		352	163	172,128
W3GN		162	52	25,272

SINGLE OP LOW POWER

N1WR		1270	309	1,176,363
WJ9B		1303	291	1,137,519
W3UJ		1120	273	916,461
W3DF		1027	287	884,247
W4HM		919	292	805,044
W3DAD		669	229	459,603
N3UMA		466	216	301,968
AA4KD		399	174	208,274
W3FA		298	161	143,934
K6ETM		291	144	125,712
NE3H		251	111	83,250
WK4Y	40	358	58	75,072
W3CP		303	67	60,903
K4HA		168	95	47,880
K3YDX		151	96	43,941
KF4OAD		137	106	43,556
W4VC		128	79	30,336
W4SD		100	71	21,300
K3SV		140	45	18,900
N3WK		89	67	17,889
W3DQ		53	28	4,452

SINGLE OP QRP

WD3P		101	57	17,271
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SINGLE OP ASSISTED

N3RR		2749	441	3,634,281
K3SA		2201	438	2,890,800
N3AM		2033	391	2,384,709
W4NF		1936	363	2,108,304
W3HVQ		1363	326	1,333,014
W3EKT		742	279	618,543
K3UG		725	282	612,504
K3KO		808	225	545,400
K2YWE		663	260	513,240
NT4D		615	257	474,165
W3UL		549	233	383,751
W3OU		357	235	251,685
N4RV		###	###	226,548

MULTI - SINGLE

W4PRO		1198	370	1,329,780
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MULTI - TWO			
W8ZA	2788	429	3,588,156
WR3L	2733	425	3,483,300

MULTI - MULTI			
W3LPL	8076	612	14,820,192
W4MYA	5964	535	9,538,515
NR4M	5261	479	7,519,821
K3DI	1069	363	1,164,141

DXPEDITIONS			
8P9JA	5290	328	5,205,360
WP3R	4542	321	4,373,946
TI7/N4MO	1238	57	211,698
(15 m, LP)			

62 LOGS	CW	TOTAL	98,229,080

OPERATORS:

8P9JA	K4MA AA4NC
K3DI	WA0QII K3NY K3DI
K4MA	W2CS at K4MA QTH
NR4M	KI4RO K4GMH K4EC WA4JUK K1SE
	K4EU NR4M K7SV
W3LPL	K1HTV AI3M N3OC KT3Y KD4D K4ZW
	WB2FFY K3RA WR3Z K9GY W2GG
	K3RV W3LPL K3MM
W4MR	N4CW at AA4NC QTH
W4MYA	K4BAM K4GAU N3SB W4DR W4HJ W4HZ
	WA4QDM WA8WV WX3B W4MYA
W4PRO	K4IX N8CH W4PRO W4SD W4ZYT
	WB4DNL
W8ZA	K8OQL N8II WD3A W8ZA
WP3R	KE3Q
WR3L	N3NT AA3SC WR3L

Note:
W3FA ex. NV3V

CQ 160M SSB (Final 4/4/00)

CALL	QSO	ST	DX	SCORE
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SINGLE OP HIGH POWER				
W4MYA	659	55	17	111,312
W4HZ	608	48	13	84,302
K2UOP	561	49	12	78,263
K4IQ	471	51	15	74,316
K4HA	280	45	9	34,558
NX9T	303	40	8	33,696
K3SV	226	40	16	33,656

K3SA	207	(43)		20,683
KB3AUG	160	38	6	16,236
N4MM	107	35	7	10,752
W4HJ	110	28	8	10,152
K3DNE	139	(29)		9,019
K4VV	90	28	7	8,085
4U1WB	97	(19)		3,857
NT4D	50	22	4	3,276

SINGLE OP LOW POWER

WK3I	360	(47)		37,882
W2GG	197	39	10	23,275
W3CP	102	(27)		6,237
N3GPU	85	(24)		4,512

MULTI OPERATOR

N4RV	434	43	17	62,940
K8OQL	209	37	7	20,636
K3KO	160	37	9	18,032
W3HVQ	166	40	6	17,940
K3DI	169	38	4	16,212
K3IXD	118	30	5	10,395
W3UL	60	22	0	2,838

26 LOGS SSB	TOTAL	753,062
43 LOGS CW	TOTAL	2,439,429
69 LOGS MIX	TOTAL	3,192,491

Guest Operators:

4U1WB AJ3M op.

Multiop operators:

Single op plus packet unless
indicated below.

ARRL DX PH (#8 4/4/2000)

CALL	BND	QSO	CTY	TOTAL
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SINGLE OP HIGH POWER

K4ZW		3709	417	4,633,704
K3ZO		2684	367	2,953,983
K2PLF		2069	372	2,307,888
K2UOP		1411	320	1,354,560
W4ZV	10	2589	127	986,409
N4MM		1067	278	889,878
AJ3M		824	255	630,360
KF3BE		801	247	592,800
N4CW		638	214	409,596
N4GU		665	186	371,070
W3AZ		585	201	352,755
K4VV		390	161	188,370
W0YR		435	143	186,615

W4MR	40	552	94	155,664
W3JRY		302	142	128,652
W4YE		278	133	110,922
KC3TL	10	419	85	106,845
W4IF		266	127	101,346
W2BZR	10	153	64	29,376
K3SV	80	98	49	14,259

SINGLE OP LOW POWER

W3UJ		937	250	702,750
N3UMA		354	206	218,772
W2CS		374	182	203,112
K4HA		338	171	173,394
K4EP		331	142	141,006
KF4OAD		297	151	134,541
N3FX		257	138	106,398
W3DF		249	131	97,857
N3EYB		251	126	94,878
W3CP		258	66	51,084
K1SO		183	117	64,233
N8CH		126	77	29,106

SINGLE OP ASSISTED

K3MM		2568	497	3,819,942
N4RV		2255	425	2,868,750
N3AM		1462	404	1,771,944
W3EKT		1096	328	1,076,496
KB3AUG		1091	321	1,050,633
N3NT		973	344	1,003,104
K3SA		855	303	776,286
W4JVN		1003	237	713,133
W3OU		643	257	495,753
K3KO		600	239	430,200
W3HVQ		484	262	383,328
W3YD		542	203	328,860
K6IR		496	219	325,872
W3UL		486	219	319,302
K3UG		442	173	229,398
KO4MR	10	218	107	69,978
K3IXD		153	116	53,244
K3DNE		178	62	33,108

MULTI - SINGLE

NT4D		2039	366	2,238,822
N1WR		1398	348	1,458,468
W4PRO		1198	370	1,329,780
WX3B		1115	237	792,054

MULTI - TWO

W3GNQ		3335	464	4,636,752
W8ZA		2660	442	3,523,182

MULTI - MULTI

W3LPL	8817	687	18,110,007
W4MYA	6066	604	10,978,908

DXPEDITIONS

8P9Z	6757	331	6,709,701
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(M/S)

TI7/N4MO	1840	59	325,680
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(10 m, LP)

MM/W3LEO	255	95	72,675
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61 LOGS	PH	TOTAL	84,447,543
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61 LOGS	CW	TOTAL	96,899,300
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122 COMBINED	TOTAL	181,346,843
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LAST YEAR'S RESULTS (SSB & CW)

Club	Logs	Score
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YCCC	265	282,469,426
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FRC	162	225,763,743
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PVRC	103	109,744,347
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OPERATORS:

8P9Z K4FJ plus one non-PVRC (K3KG)

N1WR N1WR N3WZR

NT4D NT4D KS4XG N3QYE

W3GNQ N3OC WR3Z W3ZZ WI2T W3GNQ

W3LPL W3LPL K1HTV K1RA K1RZ W2GG ND3F

K3MQH KE3Q K3RA W3UR KD4D N4QQ

N5OKR

W4MR AA4NC

W4MYA K4MA K4WMA KF4QQY N4DEN N4ZJ

W4DR W4HZ W4NM WB4GVZ WK4Y W4MYA

W4PRO K4IX N8CH W4PRO W4SD W4ZYT

WB4DNL

W8ZA K3DNE K3UG K8OQL N8II W8ZA

WX3B N3SB KA3BGZ WX3B

Notes: N8CH is former NW3K

CQ WPX SSB #6 (Apr.14.2000)

CALL PWR BAND QSO MULTS SCORE

SINGLE OP - UNASSISTED

KE3Q	C	3618	1014	10,186,644
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K3ZO	C	3178	940	8,467,520
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NV4X	C	2985	908	7,551,836
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NY4A	C 10	2648	879	6,043,125
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W0YR	C	1769	677	3,365,367
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K2UOP	C TS	1443	643	2,566,213
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N1WR	B	1368	634	2,452,312
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KC3TL	C TS	1076	547	1,731,802
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W2GG	B TS	1016	529	1,469,033
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K4ZW	C	1001	504	1,402,128
N3HXQ	C	841	470	1,018,020
AJ3M	B TS	726	420	802,200
W2BZR	C 10	638	404	570,044
NA1DX	B TS	460	336	402,192
N3RC	C TS	440	289	346,222
N3UM	B	391	269	304,777
K8OQL	B 10	343	258	239,940
W4YE	C 10	311	268	224,584
AA4KD	B	360	243	211,167
W3CP	B 10	252	219	148,920
N4MM	B	225	194	122,802
KF4OAD	B	225	201	120,399
W3FA	B	148	124	45,756
K4VV	C	122	110	35,420
K1SO	B	75	25	2,025

* SINGLE OP - ASSISTED

KO4MR	10	1109	552	1,771,920
KF3P	C	813	486	1,028,862
K3IXD	C	181	146	71,686
W3UL	C	151	127	60,198

* MULTI-SINGLE

N3OC	3163	949	8,191,768
AA4NC	3063	876	7,330,616
AC4XO	853	492	1,082,400
KU4RG	803	452	918,916

* MULTI-MULTI

W4MYA	6378	1319	21,602,582
K3DI	774	454	1,469,033

* DXPEDITIONS

V31RU	B 10	2035	714	3,600,000
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A = QRP

B = LOW POWER

C = HIGH POWER

TS = TRIBANDER + SINGLE ELEM 160-40

BR = BAND RESTRICTED

R = ROOKIE

- - - - -
 36 LOGS SSB TOTAL 96,958,429
 - - - - -

OPERATORS:

AA4NC	AA4NC KI7WX KS4XG
AC4XO	AC4XO N4GU N4EL KU4YL KF4YLM
K3DI	W3OQ WA0QII K3DI
KE3Q	from W3LPL QTH
KF3P	K3MM
KU4RG	KU4RG KF4OKG

N3OC	N3OC WR3Z
NV4X	K4MA
NY4A	W4ZV
V31RU	N4MO
W4MYA	WX3B AC4OB
	N4DEN N4EHJ
	N4ZJ W4DR
	W4HJ W4HZ
	WA4QDM WK4Y
	WU4G W4MYA

----- The reference page was not include
----- in the email edition this month.